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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,109	09/18/2003	Hyuk-Soo Son	0100-P0013A	6131

66837 7590 04/06/2007
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EXAMINER

WHIPKEY, JASON T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/665,109	SON, HYUK-SOO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jason T. Whipkey	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

ETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims ¹⁻⁷1 and ¹⁰10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001) in view of Endo (U.S. Patent No. 6,763,182) and Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,649).

Regarding **claim 1**, Berstis discloses a method of managing user data-files in a portable digital apparatus (digital camera 102) having a display device (not shown; see column 4, line 66, through column 5, line 2), and an interface for a recording medium (memory 214; see column 3, lines 4-8), the method comprising the steps of:

generating representative voice files (such as 504 and 510 in Figure 5) and data-files (such as files 502, 506, 508, and 512) in a corresponding directory (a file system may be used, which inherently includes a directory structure; see column 5, line 48) through manipulation by a user (a user captures each file; see column 3, lines 18-28), the representative voice files and data-files sequentially arranged based on the order of generation of the representative voice files and the data-files (see column 5, lines 30-43);

grouping the data-files into groups of files such that each respective group is associated with its representative voice file (files are grouped according to their location relative to other files; see *id.*).

While Berstis discloses that the files are arranged contiguously (see *id.*), he is silent with regard to the files having an index.

Endo discloses an imaging system, wherein:

files have respective names including sequentially arranged file indices based on the order of generation of the representative files (each file is assigned the next index number regardless of its type; see column 5, lines 24-39).

As stated in column 2, lines 35-40, an advantage of giving each file an index is that files can be reproduced chronologically, regardless of their type. For this reason, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have Berstis's system assign each of the sequential files an index.

Berstis is silent with regard to displaying the files of each of the groups.

Anderson discloses a digital imaging device, which:

selectively displays on the display device representative data-files of each of the groups (the device displays a number of images and icons representing grouped files; see Figure 4A and column 8, lines 6-14).

As stated in column 7, lines 50-53, an advantage of such a display is that a user may rapidly view the contents of the camera. For this reason, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have Berstis's system display groups.

Regarding **claim 2**, Anderson discloses:

selecting a desired group of the corresponding directory (a desired group can be highlighted for further display; see figures 4A and 4B).

Regarding **claim 3**, Anderson discloses:

the step of displaying photography information of the selected group on the display device (a captured image is displayed; see Figure 4A).

Regarding **claim 4**, Anderson discloses:

the step of reproducing a representative voice file of the selected group (see column 7, lines 45-49).

Regarding **claim 5**, Anderson discloses:

the step of displaying data-files of the selected group on the display device (the associated sound file, for example, is indicated in the display with an icon; see column 8, lines 23-31, and Figure 4A).

Regarding **claim 6**, Anderson discloses:

selecting a desired data-file from the data-files displayed on the display device (a single desired image or sound file can be reproduced; see column 7, lines 41-49).

Regarding **claim 7**, Anderson discloses:

displaying the one selected data-file on the display device (see *id.*).

Regarding **claim 16**, Anderson discloses:

the step of reselecting a representative data-file from the data-files of the selected group (a group may be marked and unmarked at will by the user; see column 10, lines 7-17).

3. Claims 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis in view of Endo and Anderson and further in view of Nakamura (U.S. 2004/0019681).

Claim 8 can be treated like claim 1. However, Berstis is silent with regard to locating a directory among a number of directories.

Nakamura discloses an image data management system that performs:

locating the corresponding directory to store data-files among directories formed on the recording medium (Figure 24A shows a plurality of directories in an imaging system); and

setting the located corresponding directory as a present directory (in order to write a file to or read a file from a directory [see paragraph 245, for instance], it is inherent that a destination directory must be determined).

An advantage of using a number of directories is that files may be organized in a more logical manner, relative to placing all files in a single directory. For this reason, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have Berstis's system include a number of directories from which a destination directory can be chosen.

Regarding **claim 9**, Nakamura discloses:

when the corresponding directory searched for is not found upon locating the corresponding directory, a new directory is generated and sets the newly generated directory as a present directory (see paragraph 245).

Regarding **claim 10**, Nakamura discloses:

the name of the corresponding directory includes a directory index ("ABCD", for example, in Figure 24B) and a characteristic code therein ("100" in Figure 24B).

Regarding **claim 11**, Nakamura discloses:

by the file generation step, the name of each of the representative voice files includes the directory index of the corresponding directory ("ABCD" is included in each file name in Figure 24A), a characteristic code (a file extension, such as "WAV"), and a data-file index ("0003", for example).

Regarding **claim 12**, Nakamura discloses:

by the file generation step, the name of each of the data-files includes a characteristic code (such as "JPG" or "THM" in Figure 23A) and a data-file index ("0003", for example).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 13-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding **claims 13-15**, no prior art could be located that teaches or fairly suggests a method of managing data files in a digital apparatus, wherein voice files and data files are given sequentially arranged file indices based on the order of generation and grouped by associating a voice file with data files based on their file indices, wherein a voice file is given an index of one plus the highest index and all data files associated with that voice file are assigned subsequent indices.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Whipkey, whose telephone number is (571) 272-7321. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. eastern daylight time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava, can be reached at (571) 272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

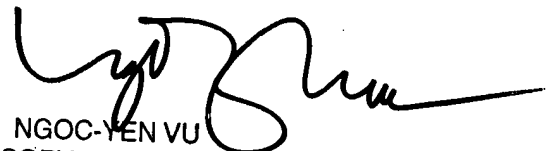
Art Unit: 2622

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JTW

JTW

April 2, 2007



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER